

# Office of Environmental Health E-Newsletter

Electronic version available at: [www.azdhs.gov/phs/oeh/rs/ehnl.htm](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/oeh/rs/ehnl.htm)

November 2004

## Get Flu Prevention Message Out!

In light of the flu vaccine shortage this year, ADHS is urging public health professionals in Arizona to get the flu prevention message out.

The following excerpt on flu prevention tips is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough;
- clean your hands often;
- avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth;
- stay home when you are sick and check with a health care provider when needed; and
- practice other good health habits.

Additional information is available at the ADHS and CDC websites at:

[www.azdhs.gov/flu](http://www.azdhs.gov/flu)

[www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)



## Southwest Food Safety Conference and Exhibition

The Southwest Food Safety Conference and Exhibition, sponsored by the Arizona County Directors of Environmental Health Services Association and the Arizona Environmental Health Association, is scheduled for February 16 - 17, 2005 in Laughlin, Nevada.

For more information contact Chris Reimus at (480) 820-7655 x202 or email at [creimus@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:creimus@mail.maricopa.gov).

## Food Biosecurity Session to be Presented at Bioterrorism Conference

Brigitte Dufour, RS, ADHS Food Biosecurity Specialist, will be presenting a session on food biosecurity and vulnerability assessments at the upcoming December 7, 2004 "Tribal Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness Conference". The conference is sponsored by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. and ADHS, at the Prescott Resort in Prescott, Arizona.

For more information, contact Quannee Oosahwe at (602) 258-4822 or email at

[quannee.oosahwe@itcaonline.com](mailto:quannee.oosahwe@itcaonline.com).

## Annual Sanitarian Registration Renewal due by December 31, 2004

Annual Sanitarian Registration Renewal Applications for calendar year 2005 are in the process of being mailed out to all Arizona Registered Sanitarians from the Arizona Sanitarian's Council. The renewal application and \$10 fee are due by December 31, 2004.

The calendar year 2005 renewal does not require any proof of continuing education credit. However, as described in the following article this will change for the 2006 calendar renewal.

## Keep Those Contact Hour Credentials!

Starting with the 2006 Annual Sanitarian Registration Renewal process, Arizona Registered Sanitarians will be required to obtain 12 contact hours of

continuing education credit each calendar year for the upcoming year's registration renewal process. Starting in calendar year 2005, each Sanitarian must obtain 12 contact hours for their 2006 registration renewal. Again, this new requirement does not apply to the 2005 renewal process. In addition, unlike a previous rule, there are no carryover mechanisms. Contact hours must be earned the calendar year prior to the renewal.

For additional information, contact Don Herrington, RS, Arizona Sanitarian's Council Chair at (602) 364-3142, [herrind@azdhs.gov](mailto:herrind@azdhs.gov), or the Arizona Sanitarian's Council Website at [www.azdhs.gov/phs/oeh/rs](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/oeh/rs).

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### **Arizona Sanitarian's Council Wants Your Feedback**

The Arizona Sanitarian's Council is asking all Arizona Registered Sanitarians for their feedback on how the Council can better serve them. The Council would like to know if there are any services or support that Sanitarians believe the Council could or should be providing to them.

If you have any suggestions, contact Don Herrington, RS, at (602) 364-3142 or [herrind@azdhs.gov](mailto:herrind@azdhs.gov).

### **ADHS Staff Get New Email Addresses**

In an effort to standardized email addresses, ADHS staff now have new email addresses with the domain [azdhs.gov](http://azdhs.gov) in lieu of the previously used [hs.state.az.us](http://hs.state.az.us). In addition, in some circumstances, the individual's user id has also changed. The new mechanism used to establish user ids is last name first (up to 6 characters), then one character for the first name. For example, Robert Gomez' email address is now [gomezr@azdhs.gov](mailto:gomezr@azdhs.gov) and Don Herrington's is [herrind@azdhs.gov](mailto:herrind@azdhs.gov).

The old ADHS email addresses will still be deliverable until December 31, 2004, however, we encourage the use of the new addresses as soon as possible.

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### **FDA Food Code Course**

The FDA will be presenting a three-day training course, *Food Code*, on May 24 - 26, 2005 at the ADHS Building in Phoenix.

The course will include training on the Food Code and the public health rationale for the Code. The course is also designed to prepare regulators on the application of the Food Code in retail food establishments.

Topics will include:  
management's duties and

responsibilities, employee health, food, equipment, water, plumbing, waste, physical facilities, poisonous and toxic materials, compliance, and enforcement.

Those County and State representatives interested in this opportunity should coordinate their registration and attendance with their management. All others can contact Bob Gomez, RS, directly at (602) 364-3140 or [gomezr@azdhs.gov](mailto:gomezr@azdhs.gov).

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### **Rule Change Updates**

ADHS is currently working on rule changes under Title 9, Chapter 8 for Schools and Hotels, Motels and Tourist Courts.

Don Herrington, RS, is the ADHS contact. He can be reached at (602) 364-3142 or [herrind@azdhs.gov](mailto:herrind@azdhs.gov).

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Newsletter comments or questions can be directed to Bob Gomez, RS, Program Manager for Food Safety and Environmental Services at (602) 364-3140 or [gomezr@azdhs.gov](mailto:gomezr@azdhs.gov).

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